

Sheriff Ed Bonner after 42 dedicated years of service to Northern California with the Placer County Sheriff's Department.

I have been fortunate enough to call Ed a friend for some time, and I know firsthand that he has long been considered one of the most respected members of the community since becoming Sheriff in 1995. What truly makes him special is the praise and admiration he receives from his peers. According to those who have worked for him, he set a high standard for taking care of his own and is a man of great integrity and honor. In his 22 year career as Sheriff, he has earned the respect and admiration of Placer County and many others throughout the state of California.

Many talk about creating a family atmosphere at work, but few truly achieve it. As Sheriff, Ed Bonner made the families of his officers and staff a priority. He is with them from the best of times to the worst, from the births of their children to family tragedies. Ed cares about all of those who he worked with, and it showed. Under Ed Bonner's leadership, he made the Placer County Sheriff's office a close knit family and that is a rare achievement.

Ed has earned many professional certificates related to law enforcement, proof that he is truly dedicated to his craft, and he furthers that knowledge by teaching classes at Sierra College and the California Command College. He graduated from California, Berkeley with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology in 1973, then returned to school to earn a Master's Degree in Management Science at Cal Poly, Pomona, in 1992. Before his law enforcement days, Ed Bonner was a gifted athlete who excelled at track and field, where he still holds multiple state high school records and was inducted into the Del Oro High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010. At the University of California, he became the first four year letterman for track and field in the school's history.

As an elected official and an outstanding community member, Ed Bonner is active in all things Placer County. He and his family are very active in the Loomis community, as well as the entire county. He helped found and lead Explorer Post 901, a co-ed youth program teaching vocational skills with an emphasis on law enforcement. He is the liaison between Scout Troop 12, where he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in 1965, and their chartering organization, the Loomis Lions Club. He also serves on advisory boards including Sutter Health, PRIDE Industries and the Boys and Girls Club of Auburn.

After a distinguished career which included serving as President of the California State Sheriff's Association in 2008, Sheriff Bonner's skills as a law enforcement administrator will be greatly missed by his community. His resume as a law enforcement officer is extensive, but more impressive is Ed Bonner as a man, a husband and a father. While the community he has protected for 42 years could not possibly replace his experience, it is now time for a much deserved retirement which he can spend with his loving family, his wife, Jeanne, his two adult sons, Andrew and Matthew, his daughter-in-law Holly and grandson Mason. It has been a pleasure to work with Sheriff Bonner during my time in public office and I would like to wish him a peaceful and happy retirement as he moves on to embark on a new journey in life.

I thank him for his friendship and service.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BROWNSVILLE

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Brownsville for their 100th year of service.

Located in South Texas, the Rotary Club of Brownsville was founded in 1916. Since its formation, the club has lived up to its promise of service above self. For 100 years, its members have dedicated time, money and energy to helping those who need it most.

The accomplishments of the Rotary Club include opening the city's first hospital, Mercy Hospital, in 1923; forming a Boy Scout troop; funding the Brownsville Endowment for Teaching Excellence Program; and establishing an Adoption Awareness program. Their achievements have extended beyond the region as this club joined Rotary members throughout the world to fund the Polio Plus Project, a \$120 million effort to wipe the disease from the face of the earth.

The Rotary Club of Brownsville has made a lasting, positive impact in our community, and they will continue to play a critical role in the development of South Texas. I rise today to congratulate them for their century of success.

IN HONOR OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAVENSWOOD FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the awe-inspiring Ravenswood Family Health Center upon the 15th Anniversary of its founding. This clinic is a key provider of quality affordable, integrated healthcare services in the southern cities of my district. Sixteen thousand residents are served annually by its newly-opened, state-of-the-art facility located in the beautiful city of East Palo Alto.

Ravenswood opened as South County Community Clinic in 2000 with 13 employees. It currently has a staff of 182 full and part-time employees and contractors. It employs 25 full or part-time medical providers including physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants, and nurses, six full and part-time dentists, and four behavioral health providers. Seventy-one percent of the clinic's patients are served in their native language, including Spanish and Tongan. Ninety-seven percent of the patients are ethnic minorities.

The center's goal is to provide culturally-competent, sensitive primary and preventive care offering dignity to all patients. Often, the ability of a healthcare provider to do his or her job depends upon knowing how the patient's culture will influence the provider's recommendations. It is essential that the whole patient be treated with respect and offered dignity so that their illness or life situation can be competently assessed.

The clinic offers a comprehensive scope of care including family practice, adult medicine,

teen health, prenatal health, dentistry, women's health, integrated behavioral health, optometry, pharmacy, mammography, ultrasound, x-ray, lab, and health education. Ravenswood partners with Stanford's adult and children's hospitals, the San Mateo County Medical Center and clinics, and Sutter Health.

As of 2014, 98 percent of the clinic's patients lived at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, which for a family of four is about \$24,300. Forty percent of its patients were uninsured, and 51 percent had Medi-Cal coverage. Our community counts on the Ravenswood Family Health Center to provide care to our most vulnerable residents, and 39 percent of the clinic's patients were children. Five percent of patients were homeless and, also as of 2014, 63 of those patients were children. Nearly 25 percent of all East Palo Alto residents are patients, as are nearly 18 percent of all residents of Belle Haven.

The Ravenswood Family Health Clinic provides valuable training opportunities for young physicians and allied professionals, and an opportunity to practice cutting-edge community healthcare, most notably chronic disease management, in part through grants from the federal government. While many in America struggle to pay for prescription drugs, the advent of the Affordable Care Act coupled with the clinic's discount pharmacy provides affordable prescriptions to both the insured and the uninsured.

The vision of the Ravenswood Family Health Center is also one of stressing control over one's destiny. The vision is: Educated, engaged and empowered patients actively managing their health and becoming advocates for healthy living within their family and the community, inspiring others to value that good health is true wealth.

Not surprisingly, philanthropic support of the Ravenswood Family Health Center has been enormous, with tens of millions donated through its capital and operating campaigns. Much of this philanthropic support is due to the outstanding staff led by the clinic's energetic and visionary Chief Executive Officer, Luisa Buada. From its earliest days, Luisa Buada has assembled a team to take on big goals.

Starting in trailers with a limited number of services, her team has a stellar record of both expanding services and taking on new challenges. To build on the old saying, it takes a village to take care of the health needs of a community and Luisa has assembled her staff village so that no member of the clinic's community goes without access to needed healthcare services. The clinic's board of directors has steadfastly supported the dream of being more than just a community clinic and to instead become a beacon of hope and advanced medicine. Luisa, her staff, and the board have succeeded.

Mr. Speaker, when the history of our era is written it will be noted that America engaged in a decade or more of debate about how best to provide Americans affordable, quality healthcare. What history will not reveal, but what is true, is that the riddle was answered at the Ravenswood Family Health Center. After fifteen years it is a stunning success. Despite its relative youth, the entire organization is very much an adult institution, with adult responsibilities, and an impact that touches and improves the lives of tens of thousands. We

wish the staff and patients of the Ravenswood Family Health Center a long and healthy future.

HONORING SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL OF ST. HELENA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Soroptimist International of St. Helena, the recipient of the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce Non-profit of the Year Award.

Founded in 1921 in Oakland, California, Soroptimist International is a worldwide volunteer service organization for women who work to improve the lives of other women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. The organization seeks equality, peace, and international goodwill for women. Over 95,000 members in more than 125 countries and territories worldwide contribute time and financial support to community-based and international projects.

The St. Helena Chapter of Soroptimist International was founded in 1954. Since then, the chapter has raised and distributed more than a million dollars in local scholarships and grants. This money was entirely raised by volunteers, many of whom also work full-time. Their fundraising has helped send numerous St. Helena students to college and summer camps, as well as educational trips to national parks and Washington, D.C.

The organization also provides support and stability to single parents in our community with education and career opportunities. Dozens of mothers throughout the Napa County region have been able to return to school or complete vocational training with the help of Soroptimist professional grants.

Mr. Speaker, Soroptimist International of St. Helena has worked to make our community and our world a more equitable place for over five decades. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the organization here today and congratulate the group on this well-deserved accolade.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER SER-
GEANT (SGT) ROBERT SHANE
PUGH

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Sergeant (SGT) Robert Shane Pugh who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on March 3, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. SGT Pugh was a combat medic with the Mississippi Army National Guard's 155th Brigade Combat Team. He was mortally wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle in Iskandariyah, Iraq also wounding Sergeant First Class Ellis Martin. SGT Pugh posthumously received the Silver Star, the third-

highest decoration for valor in combat, as well as the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Mississippi Medal of Valor.

SGT Pugh's Silver Star citation states, "Although in extreme pain, Sergeant Pugh directed treatment instructions to the members of his platoon for both himself and Sergeant First Class Martin. He remained calm and continued to give instructions until the medical evacuation helicopter arrived. Sergeant Pugh passed away on route to the hospital; however his courage and disregard for his own welfare resulted in saving the life of a fellow comrade who was severely wounded."

SGT Pugh was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 155th Infantry Regiment, Mississippi Army National Guard, headquartered in McComb, Mississippi. He enlisted in the Army in 1999 because he wanted to be a combat medic. In the civilian world, SGT Pugh was a licensed paramedic and worked as a phlebotomist for United Blood Services in Meridian.

SGT Pugh's mother, Wilma Allen, said her son was her pride and joy. "I am very proud of him. He was happy, outstanding, and outgoing. He would do anything for anybody," said his mother.

In a fitting tribute to this brave and caring soldier, the National Guard Readiness Center in Morton has been named in his honor.

SGT Pugh is survived by his parents, Glen and Wilma Pugh, his stepfather, Gary Allen, and his siblings Tiffany Johnson, April Pearson, Jennifer Reed, Brad Allen, and Dale Allen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 116 and 121 on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on roll call votes 116 and 121.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ED
GARVEY

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ed Garvey, a progressive icon in Wisconsin who founded the Fighting Bob Festival, championed the underdog and fought the good fight for equality, justice and true representative democracy.

Ed Garvey's unwavering support of working people was evident in his career as a labor attorney, including early years as executive director of the National Football League Players' Association. Before that he was a civil rights crusader as president of the National Student Association, who in the 1960s traveled south with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

In his legal work, his advocacy, his writings and speeches, Ed championed progressive causes from women's rights to environmental

protection to LGBT rights to protecting voting access and getting big money out of politics. He sought, in founding Fighting Bob Fest, to bring together groups from diverse walks of life that shared in common our values and beliefs, so we could all see we are more alike than different. Bob Fest always offered the chance to talk, debate, socialize, argue and, at the end of the day, join together to take on the powers-that-be.

He united progressive causes with a populist bent, a dry wit and a rabble-rousing spirit. He laid out an admirable path for all of us who believe in fighting for the underdog and staying involved in our democracy as informed and vocal citizens.

Ed Garvey kept the spirit of Fightin' Bob LaFollette alive and passed it along so generations of Wisconsinites will continue to honor that Wisconsin legacy.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the life of Mr. Ed Garvey today.

FAREWELL TO MICHAEL L.
HARRISON

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, please allow me to note the retirement of my Chief Counsel on my House Administration Committee staff, Michael L. Harrison. After 32 years of service to the House of Representatives, half of them with the Committee, Mike has decided to close out his Capitol Hill career in favor of other pursuits in the Sunshine State. His staff colleagues and I will greatly miss him, his experience and especially his clever sense of humor, which enlivened many meetings and discussions.

Mike first appeared in these precincts in 1980 as an undergraduate intern for one of his home-state senators. To this day, he often refers to the Senate as the Upper Chamber. I'm told that as a teenager, Mike harbored plans to study law and eventually run for a seat. He was reportedly the only resident of his college dormitory with a mail subscription to the Congressional Record.

While working as a Senate intern, Mike had lots of spare time which he put to good use. He explored the Capitol and the capital city thoroughly. Among his other discoveries during the winter of 1980, Mike was fortunate to find another intern, whose good looks and willingness to take a chance led to their eventual marriage which endures to this day. Everybody who knows his wife, Laurie, agrees that she is a saint with a great sense of humor of her own.

Following law school in St. Louis, Mike returned to Washington in pursuit of a career not as a senator but on the staff. Mike served three House committees, one joint committee, and three individual Members. He worked on budget-process, reconciliation, campaign-finance reform and on a measure to clarify when a President can use the pocket veto. At the House Administration Committee, Mike worked on sundry legislation and oversight of the Government Publishing Office, the U.S. Capitol Police, the Architect of the Capitol and the Library of Congress.

Mike, an ardent Democrat by birth, worked in the majority and, to his chagrin, the minority. But whether in the majority or minority,